



News Release

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Initiative 1000 rule filed; state to hold hearing on Death with Dignity Act rule

OLYMPIA — The state Department of Health has proposed rules required under Initiative 1000, the Death with Dignity Act. The agency is taking written public comment and will hold a public hearing on the proposed rules next month.

The Department of Health is proposing new rules ([chapter 246-978 WAC](#)) as part of Initiative 1000. The proposed rules describe the department's responsibility to collect information specified in the initiative and to set the qualifications of witnesses designated by long term care facilities. They also clarify definitions, reporting requirements for health care providers, and confidentiality of the collected information.

The draft rules were filed on January 6, 2009. People may submit [written comments by e-mail](#) (dwda@doh.wa.gov) or [post them online](#) (<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/policyreview/>). The deadline for written comments is February 10.

Public comment will also be taken at an open meeting on Washington Death with Dignity Act, February 10 at 9 a.m. The hearing will be held at the Department of Health; Point Plaza East Room 152/153; 310 Israel Rd SE in Tumwater.

Initiative 1000, modeled on the Oregon Death with Dignity Act and sponsored by former Governor Booth Gardner, was approved by voters in November. It will be effective on March 5.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for a healthy dose of information.